

REMARKS

Claims 12 and 17-22 currently appear in this application. The Office Action of March 26, 2008, has been carefully studied. These claims define novel and unobvious subject matter under Sections 102 and 103 of 35 U.S.C., and therefore should be allowed. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration, entry of the present amendment, and formal allowance of the claims.

Amendment

Claim 12 has been amended by incorporating the subject matter of claim 13 in order to limit "unsaturated compounds" to those selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, simple lipids, conjugated lipids and alcohols. Claim 12 has been further limited to correct the chemical formula of "a cyclotetrasaccharide." Claims 13 and 14 have been cancelled.

Claim 17 has been amended to correct the chemical formula of "a cyclotetrasaccharide" claims 18, 19, 21 and 22 have been amended to depend from claim 17. As claim 17 has been deemed to be allowable, it is respectfully submitted that claims 18, 19, 21 and 22 should now be allowable.

Claim Objections

Claims 12-14 are objected to because the formula representing the cyclotetrasaccharide is incorrect.

The present amendment corrects this typographical error in both claim 12 and in claim 17. As claims 13 and 14 have been cancelled, this objection is moot.

Art Rejections

Claims 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oku et al., EP 1321148. The Examiner states that Oku discloses a method for inhibiting the reduction of active oxygen eliminating activity (which involves radical formation) comprising incorporating the inhibitory agent comprising the cyclotetrasaccharide into a plant substance with active oxygen eliminating activity. The Examiner considers that, while the difference between applicant's claimed method and the method disclose in Oku is that Oku does not explicitly disclose preventing denaturation of an ingredient in a composition, it is well known that products comprised mainly of organic compounds, such as lipids, dyes and synthetic high molecules, will be deteriorated in quality and function during their storage as a result of occurrence of undesired odors. Therefore, the Examiner asserts that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, to inhibit formation of radicals by

incorporating the cyclotetrasaccharide into a composition comprising an unsaturated organic compound such as a lipid or dye to prevent the ingredients from being denatured.

This rejection is respectfully traversed. Oku never teaches that the cyclotetrasaccharide inhibits reduction of active oxygen eliminating activity by incorporating the cyclotetrasaccharide into a plant substance. Furthermore, it should be noted that Oku does not teach inhibiting the reduction of active oxygen eliminating activity in a composition as defined in claim 12 as amended, that is, "a composition comprising one or more unsaturated compounds selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, simple lipids, conjugated lipids and alcohols." This amendment makes the method claimed herein clearly distinguishable over Oku.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has found claims 12-22 to be allowable over the prior art of record. The Examiner recognizes that the compound of the present application is similar to the compounds of Oku, there is nothing in the prior art that suggests the invention claimed in claims 17-22.

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It is respectfully submitted that the claims are now
in condition for allowance, and favorable action thereon is
earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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